

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 DODE-00 ERDA-05

PRS-01 USIA-06 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /081 W

----- 071365

O R 212120Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2084

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 9173

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH; ENRG; BR

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR ENERGY - HOUSTON POWER AND LIGHT CONTRACT

REF: BRASILIA 8754

1. DESPITE THE REJECTION OF THE HOUSTON POWER AND LIGHT (HPL) CONTRACT BY NUCLEBRAS PRESIDENT NOGUEIRA BATISTA (REF), EMBASSY WOULD PREFER TO REQUEST A FORMAL RESPONSE FROM MINES AND ENERGY SECRETARY-GENERAL BARBALHO, TO WHOM THE ECONCOUNS MADE THE HPL CONTRACT OFFER. WE HAVE TWO REASONS FOR WANTING TO GO BACK TO BARBALHO FOR A DEFINITIVE RESPONSE. FIRST, CNEN PRESIDENT HERVASIO CARVALHO HAS ADVISED US THAT NOGUEIRA BATISTA IS NOT NECESSARILY THE AUTHORITY ON FURNAS MATTERS (FURNAS REPORTS TO ELECTROBRAS, WHICH IN TURN IS ACCOUNTABLE TO MINES AND ENERGY MINISTER UEKI). SECOND, TWO GOB SOURCES TOLD EMBOFF ON OCTOBER 21 THAT THEY WERE NOT AWARE THAT A DECISION HAD BEEN MADE ON THE HPL CONTRACT OFFER.

2. ALTHOUGH THE EMBASSY DOES NOT EXPECT THAT SECRETARY GENERAL BARBALHO'S ANSWER WILL DIFFER FROM BATISTA'S WE BELIEVE A CLARIFICATION WOULD BE WORTHWHILE.

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BEFORE GOING BACK TO BARBALHO, HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE

TO KNOW WHETHER THE HPL CONTRACT IS STILL AVAILABLE.
REQUEST DEPT'S CLARIFICATION ASAP.
JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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